देशवार आंकड़े वाणिज्यिक जानकारी एवं सांख्यिकी महानिदेशालय, कलकत्ता द्वारा प्रकाशित मासिक बुलेटिन/वार्षिक अंकों में उपलब्ध हैं जिनकी प्रतियां संसद पुस्तकालय में उपलब्ध हैं ।

Export of Floriculture Items

6759. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of floriculture items being exported without any restrictions at present;

(b) the foreign exchange earnings by export of such items; and

(c) the details of other variety of floricultural items that Government are considering to allow for export without licence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Export of all floriculture items such as cut flowers, live plants, foliage, bulbs and tubers is allowed without any restriction except those which are covered by SI. No. 3, Part I, Chapter XVI of the Export Import Policy for 1992—97 (as amended upto 31st March, 1995).

(b) Value of floriculture items exported during the years 1993-94, and 1994-95 (April—November) are as under:—

	(In Rs. Lakh)	
	1993-94	1994-95 (April-Nov.)
Cut Flowers Fresh .	99.64	61.74
Dried Flowers .	1092.13	1310.41
Live Plants . .	243.97	161.12
Dried Plants . .	298.38	38.12
Bulbs & Tubers .	149.53	34.08
TOTAL :	1883.65	1605.47

(Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta)

(c) Trade Policy review is an on going exercise. As and when Govt. takes a decision with respect to any item, it will be notified to the public.

Steps taken to reduce Litigation in ITPO

6760. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 467 given in the Rajya Sabha on 8th May, 1995 and state what steps have been taken to make the ITPO a less litigious organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): The following steps have been taken to reduce litigation in ITPO :—

(i) Welfare & Grievances Officer has been appointed.

(ii) Opportunity is given for constant interaction between Management and the Employees' Union and Officers' Association.

(iii) The Joint Consultative Machinery between Management and staff of ITPO also looks into various grievances from time to time.

Exports of Indian Footwear

6761. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the Times of India, dated the 24th April, 1995 under the caption "India way behind in leather exports";

(b) if so, the reasons for which the Indian footwear industry is lagging far behind its chinese counterpart in the world leather trade market as China exports about 300 million pairs of shoes annually whereas India exports a little over 18 million pairs; and

(c) the efforts being made to augment export of Indian footwear?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The exports of leather footwear from India has been increasing steadily over the last few years and have grown from a level of Rs. 280 crores in 1990-91 to more than Rs. 900 crores in 1994-95. Realising the vast untapped export potential, leather footwear has been identified for intensive focus by the Government to achieve large incremental growth in exports. As part of the export promotion strategy certain steps have been taken e.g., instituting various training programmes including programmes for trainer-training, establishing design studies with CAD/CAM facility; estabishment of dedicated industrial estates for footwear; reduction/rationalisation of Customs/Excise duty on footwear and footwear components; coordinated marketing etc.

Growth in leather exports

6762. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the projected growth in leather exports for 1995-96;

(b) whether any efforts are proposed to explore new markets for leather;

(c) whether Andhra Pradesh is a major contributor of raw leather used for exports;

(d) whether any incentives are given to enterpreneurs to set up modern leather processing units for exports; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The expected growth in the exports of leather and leather products during 1995-96 is estimated to be about 16 per cent.

(b) Yes, Sir. Efforts are being made to explore new markets such as South Africa.

(c) Andhra Pradesh contributes around 11 per cent of the total availability of raw hides and skins in the country.

(d) and (e) No special incentives are being given for setting up leather processing units for exports at present apart from the general incentives available for the exporters.

Machinery imports by DGFT and DRI

6763. SHRI VAYALAR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to a report in the Asian Age dated the 29th April, 1995 that DGFT and DRI clash over machinery imports; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to check the fraud of certain firms of over invoicing and other malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) M/s. Rama Newsprint & Papers Ltd., were issued an import licence on 2.4.1992 for import of second hand machinery for the manufacture of newsprint on the recommendation of the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals in the Ministry of Industry based on the clearance given by the Special Approvals Committee-NRI. The firm later made a request to allow them to import machinery/components which were more than 7 years old in relaxation of the condition laid down in the Policy prevailing at that time. The amendment was recommended by the concerned technical authority. The request of the firm was considered by the appropriate Inter-Ministerial Committee constituted under the EXIM Policy 1992-97. The Committee approved the import of the said machinery/components. As far